

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A sealed battery, comprising:
 - 2 a generator element that is an electrode group
 - 3 impregnated with electrolyte;
 - 4 an external casing that has an opening and
 - 5 encloses the generator element;
 - 6 a closure cap for sealing the opening, the closure
 - 7 cap having a gas release valve that is formed by covering
 - 8 a gas release hole in the closure cap with a thin film;
 - 9 and
 - 10 a shielding member that is located between the
 - 11 thin film and the generator element to protect the thin
 - 12 film from the electrolyte so as to secure a gas channel
 - 13 from an internal space of the external casing to the gas
 - 14 release hole.
- 1 2. The sealed battery according to Claim 1, wherein a
2 space is provided between the shielding member and the
3 thin film to allow gas to flow from the internal space of
4 the external casing to the gas release hole.
- 1 3. The sealed battery according to Claim 2, wherein
2 the shielding member is a plate set in parallel with the
3 thin film.

1 4. The sealed battery according to Claim 3, wherein
2 the shielding member is no smaller than the thin film.

1 5. The sealed battery according to Claim 1, wherein
2 the shielding member prevents electrolyte that escapes
3 from the generator element from perpendicularly hitting
4 the thin film.

1 6. The sealed battery according to one of Claims 1 to
2 5, wherein

3 an insulating member is set between the generator
4 element and the closure cap so as to electrically separate
5 the generator element and the closure cap, and
6 the shielding member is held by the insulating
7 member.

1 7. The sealed battery according to one of Claims 1 to
2 5, wherein

3 an insulating member is set between the generator
4 element and the closure cap so as to electrically separate
5 the generator element and the closure cap, and
6 the shielding member is attached to the insulating
7 member.

1 8. The sealed battery according to one of Claims 1 to
2 5, wherein,

3 an insulating member is set between the generator
4 element and the closure cap so as to electrically separate
5 the generator element and the closure cap, and
6 the shielding member and the insulating member are
7 integrally formed.